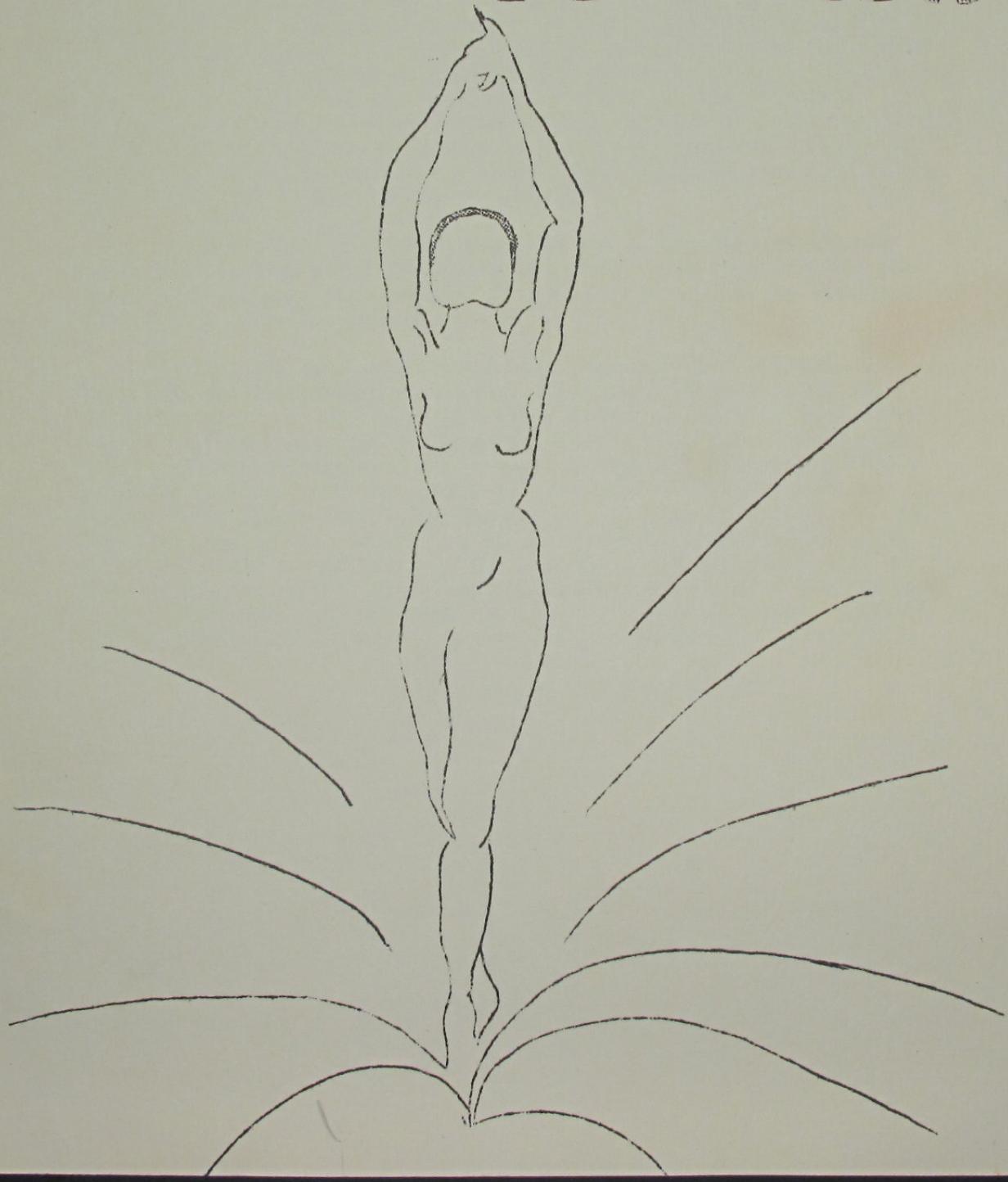


1939-1964

M.E.S. AMIES



THURSDAY NO--

ADRIENNE and JESSIE - who spent time, energy, thought and great enthusiasm
on the excellent organization of a rather large affair.

MARY JESSIE and DOROTHY LATHAM COLETT for telegrams sent to the reunion.

MARY LATHAM who drove from Hamilton to attend Sunday's tea of the reunion.

Because of several references to our magazine of 1938-1939,
"Mes Amies", I pulled mine out and enjoyed it all over again--in fact,
I found it most amusing--may I refer you to the humor of yesterday and
our youth? The same Editor is not so sage now, but finds writing just
as fascinating and has enjoyed this job immensely--actually for a whole
year, for which I apologize! Writing for pleasure, is much more fun
than writing for marks, for money or for duty, and Mrs. Raymer's
suggestion that we follow her class' circulating letter, which has been
doing that for many years, appeals to me. Maybe Jess would start it,
as her letter was to me like a wonderful chat over the years and I, for
one, would like to keep up the conversation.

The up-to-date addresses delighted me--please prepare all the
extra beds as I am going travelling and always have room here for you
too. Adrienne asks that changes of addresses go to her, so the list
can be kept correct, please!

Reading the news of everyone was wonderful--such enthusiasm,
happiness and fulfillment is evident, also such modesty, humor and
understatement! I felt Mary McCarthy's Vassar re-union in "The Group"
wasn't half as successful as Margaret Eaton's of an approximate year.
I felt the married members didn't need to read Betty Frieden's "The
Feminine Mystique" nor the single members Helen Gourley's Brown's
"Sex and the Single Girl"--but thought we had all turned out to be quite
pleasant people, "all thirty-two of us". Following Marjorie Fraser
Armitage's lead of referring to her prophecy, I have cast my mind at the
letters and the crystal ball, and the apparent validity of the statements,
here quoted, and only made some changes in reports of those I know, (I
hope to their satisfaction). Now on to the Newsletter.....

Phoebe Hamilton, Editor

Since I left Toronto I have put in two years of work in
the small Dennis Library. It was only part-time work, but in
the summer this increased over a hundred percent. Cape Cod has
become a terrific tourist mecca, but it is also being spoiled for
the people who liked its old charm and peaceful quiet. There are
many tourists people arriving each year and there is much social
club and church activity going on in the winter.

I send you my very best wishes for a joyous and satisfying
reunion. I hope you will look forward to others, especially
your return. It comes sooner than you think!

With love to you all--

Florence Somers."

THANKS TO--

ADRIENNE and PATTY - who spent time, energy, thought and great enthusiasm on the excellent organization of a rather large affair.

MISS SOMERS and DOROTHY LAIDLAW CORLETT for telegrams sent to the reunion.

MISS LAYTON who drove from Hamilton to attend Sunday's tea of the reunion, and who writes such interesting Christmas notes. She was in Vancouver visiting this spring, and we lunched together in order to enjoy a good chat.

MISS JACKSON for arranging the tour of the Benson Building, and also for her donation of the excellent Flexibility Series for Swimmers. Could this outstanding educationalist be persuaded to come out to British Columbia, where we seem short of professionals of her stature--the new Simon Fraser University perhaps?

RUTH SCOTT WATT, 1942, for the use of the notes used for the twentieth reunion of this class.

SORRY--

ELINOR WALKER CHADWICK was unable to attend the reunion at the last minute, because of illness at home.

Those who couldn't make it were missed.

STAFF--

MISS SOMERS:

"..... I am in the same place I came to after leaving Toronto only in a different house. The old home I retired to turned out to be too difficult to heat and keep in repair, so I sold it in 1955 and built a small four room house which has been a joy. Its chief weakness is that it does not hold as many guests from Canada and elsewhere as I would like, having only one guest room.

Since I left Toronto I have put in nine years of work in the small Dennis Library. It was only part time work, but in the summer this increased over a hundred percent. Cape Cod has become a terrific tourist mecca, but it is also being spoiled for the people who liked its old charm and peaceful quiet. There are many retired people arriving each year and there is much social club and church activity going on in the winter.

I send you my very best wishes for a joyous and satisfying reunion. I hope you will look forward to others, especially your 50th! It comes sooner than you think!

With love to you all--

Florence Somers."

MRS. RAYMER:

"Dear Friends, (Because that's the way I've always thought of you).

It is a great pleasure and privilege to send you greetings since it was not possible to see you over that historic week-end. I went to N.Y.C. to put Judy on her Italy-bound ship and then of course had to go to the World's Fair. The Fair's wonderful, and as everyone says, it would take two weeks to see it all.

Since 1953 Ralph and I have owned Tanamakoon and we love it. For me there is an added pleasure: many of the campers are daughters of former Tanamakoon and M.E.S. people and it is lovely to see them. They resemble their mothers in so many rewarding ways. We spend the whole year on camp affairs, but have time for curling and taking trips. And of course there are all the committees one gets involved with.

Our Judy, now 21, will graduate from the Ontario College A.T. in 1965. It has been a marvellous course for her.

Now that you have had the fun of seeing one another again and hearing news of the absent ones, try to keep it up. Those old ties (to be corny as the younger say) do get dearer and more meaningful as time passes. A dozen of my class mates has had a Round Robin going for 34 years! It travels in a circle and we take out our old letter and put in a new one each time it reaches us. We feel quite at home with one another still.

My very best wishes for health, happiness and joy-of-living to each of you.

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth Wardley Raymer."

ADRIENNE (ADAMS) LEA

"Brevity is the soul of wit."

- 1939-49: Taught at Ontario Ladies College, Whitby and Tanamakoon Camp.
- June, 1941: Married Ed whom you all know. Did part time teaching for a year or so.
- November, 1943: Ted, now 19, born while Ed was overseas. Ted has just finished 1st year Arts at Queen's University and returns to take Honors History. He is interested in swimming and music--plays the piano and bassoon.
- February, 1947: Tony, now 17, born; in grade 11, active with Boy Scouts, (had a wonderful trip to Jamboree in Greece last summer), and Church teen club, plays football, swims and is always busy.
- February, 1950: Donald, now 14, born; in grade 9. Active with Boy Scouts, on school swim team, plays piano and cello.
- November, 1953: Patricia, now 10; in Grade 5. Takes part in track and field, is a good swimmer and diver. Learning piano and fancy skating.
- June, 1957: Frances, now 6; in Grade I, never stops talking, and does everything on the run. Has learned to swim and dive after a fashion.

We have a summer place near Magnetewan where we spend a great deal of time. Archery, fishing, hunting, water skiing, etc., are among the things that we all do together.

I am active with the I.O.D.E., the Ladies Auxiliary of Cubs and Scouts, the Havergal Old Girls Assoc., and other community things as they arise and I can find time for them. I have put on weight, have quite a few grey hairs and am slowing up. However, life is full and very busy.

(Adrienne's family is one of the handsomest groups I've ever seen, and look equally as nice!--Ed.)

Mrs. E. R. Lea,
63 Parkwood Ave.,
Toronto 7, Ontario.

GWEN (BAALIM) HOLLAND

I am much busier in our new home than I was in other cities. Hospital auxiliary work is the most time consuming, and I just completed my term as President. This "Fair" held on the 2nd Saturday in June, raised \$1,000.00. The annual blossom sale from January to May, has taken over \$2,000.00. No excuse for being busy.

The last two years during the winter months I've started up a Keep Fit class each week at the Kelowna Yacht Club. Have also been working at the School for Retarded Children, which is

Sorry I can't be with you all, to join in the fun, but will be there in spirit anyway.

It's hard to pack twenty-five years into a few paragraphs, but here is a summary since leaving M.E.S.

1939-42: Taught at the Y.W. in London, Ont. Met George Holland and was married Aug. 19/42 at home in Lethbridge, (Dieppe Day).

1942-45: Travelled back and forth across Canada while George was in the Army as a Lieutenant in the Artillery. Returned to London from Halifax and had our first daughter, Anne Irene, on April 11/45.

1945-47: Settled down in our first home, with George back in the corrugated box industry. I had a nice part time job teaching P.E. at Central Collegiate. (Who said an M.E.S. grad couldn't teach in High Schools?)

1947-54: Moved to Calgary, one of my favorite cities, where Mary Elizabeth was born on May 4/49, and George Roland (Geordie) was born on March 27/53.

1955-57: Moved to Vancouver, where George was transferred by the Powell River Company. Had some nice get-togethers with Dorothy Barber Lupton.

1957-58: Moved to Saskatoon, and enjoyed the beautiful city and friendly people very much.

1958-64: Back to British Columbia and the lovely Okanagan Valley, where George decided to get into business on his own, in the place we both wanted to live. Kelowna is a beautiful city (13,000 population) and we are very happy here. George has the B.C. franchise for Tastee-Freez Drive-In Restaurants, 12 now operating.

Kelowna is a four-season playground. We ski all winter and into spring at an elevation of 7,300 feet on Big White Mountain, only 40 miles from our home. We swim, fish, water ski, or cruise on Okanagan Lake, 70 miles long. Golfing sometimes up to Christmas on an excellent 18 hole course, and while I love the game, am not too good at it. (I must sound like the Chamber of Commerce, but it's all true.)

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I am much busier in Community work here than in other cities. Hospital Auxiliary work is the most time consuming, and I just completed my term as President. This week is our biggest project, the "Annual Blossom Fair" held on the Hospital grounds. We work hard from January to May, organizing fifteen different booths, and expect to make over \$2,000. (My excuse for being late with this letter.)

The last three years during the winter months I've headed up a Keep Fit Class for an hour each week at the Kelowna Yacht Club. Have also been doing volunteer teaching at the School for Retarded Children, which is very challenging work. I have a class of 15 girls and women, ranging in the age from 7 to 32. Sure would appreciate some ideas on lesson plans for such a group. Good old "Dorothy La Salle" dances are the most popular activity, also relays, tumbling exercises and ball games.

Now for a bit about the children. Anne, 19, is 5'9" and has just finished her first term at U.B.C., (Secondary Education). She is an accomplished rider, and has her own Jumper Hunter Mare. A good speed swimmer and teaches at playgrounds. She has the high-jump record for Interior B.C. High Schools and starred on the basketball team.

Mary at 15 is 5'8" and is also a good rider. She loves basketball and swims well, but is not keenly competitive. She plays the violin in the Junior High School orchestra, and is our best student.

Geordie, at 11, is starting to shoot up. He's very active and stays on the skinny side. He loves science, skiing, baseball, football, belongs to the Cubs and puts up with piano lessons. George is 6'5", so I must expect the kids to be tall.

I have rambled on long enough, so will stop all this and wish you all the best for another twenty-five years. (Let's hold the 50th Reunion in Kelowna!)

Love to all of you,

Gwen Baalim Holland.

(I knocked on the door of the Holland's attractive house to get them to join me for skiing last Christmas, but they must have left ahead of me! -- Ed.)

Mrs. George Holland,
2425 Abbott Street,
Kelowna, B. C.

DOROTHY (BARBER) LUPTON

"Be silent and safe, silence never betrays you."

Dear M.E.S. Amies:

These happy years of 1937 - 1939! 25 years ago! - It seems impossible, but my thoughts return to those wonderful days at Margaret Eaton - the friends we made - our guiding staff - happy days - carefree days --

After leaving school, and in the fall of 1939, I accepted a position with the Y.M.C.A. in New Westminster as Girls' Secretary. This was quite a challenge as a Y.W.C.A. had ceased to exist, and they were setting up a Girls' and Women's Program with the Y.M.C.A. Also that fall of course, war broke out, and in 1940 I went to Vernon, B.C., where I was on staff at a school set up for Lady Patricia Eden. Lady Eden had originally headed a school in England, but at the outbreak of war she brought about 25 children to Canada. She is the sister-in-law of Sir Anthony Eden, and most charming, as were the children, all of whom came from very wealthy families, and a few of whom were titled. Unfortunately, Lady Eden was most unhappy, and did not make friends with the people of Vernon, who were extremely kind to her, and the following year she moved the entire school to Quebec, but none of the staff followed.

After this, I returned to Vancouver to take a Secretarial Course, and when this was completed, I worked for an Insurance Company until I was married in May of 1947.

My husband Dick, is from Regina, and I met him while doing Voluntary Service Work at the Officers' Club in Vancouver, during the war. He was a Pilot with the R.C.A.F. We lived in Vancouver for nine years, and then built this home where we now live in South Burnaby. Dick is the District Auditor with the Unemployment Insurance Commission, in New Westminster.

We have two children - a girl and a boy. Donald is $14\frac{1}{2}$ and is finishing Grade 9. She is very talented in Art and Writing and makes many of her own clothes. She likes sports, but is not an active participant. She hopes to become a Secondary School Teacher. Douglas will be 13 in July, and is also doing very well at school, finishing Grade 7 this year. He is exceptionally talented in Art, and is also our sport enthusiast - every minute of his spare time being spent at some activity. He feels he will go into automotive engineering.

Dick and I are both into Community Work - I have worked with the P.T.A. and served on the executive for several years. Dick is very

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active with the Boy Scouts, serving now as Treasurer for the District. He was also with the Reserve R.C.A.F. for 12 years as Staff Officer-- Accounts Branch, until its disbandment this spring. We both bowl, but that is about the extent of our physical activities, although next year we hope to curl as well.

A year ago, I had the opportunity of a part time job, so now I am working in an Insurance office, Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from nine to one o'clock. It does not interfere with our home life, but really keeps me on the go more than ever before. However, I do enjoy it, and find it very pleasant.

Without going into too much detail, this brings you up to date on "my life". I am most anxious now to hear from all the others. I will certainly be thinking of all of you, and only wish that it was possible for me to be present too. Please remember me to all the girls, and to the Staff.

All the best for a very Happy and Successful Reunion!

Sincerely,

Dorothy (Barber) Lupton

P.S. I do hope some of you are Camera Fans, for it would be wonderful to have a group picture of everyone.

D.

as whooping it up. The only drawback - as far as we concerned - was age - at midnight I was exhausted - and like Cinderella - had to go back to the Park Plaza before my face slipped. Adrienne and Fatty are made of sterner stuff. They were up until 4:00 a.m. - also Fraser who left his self out to Hillside - and made it. Too bright's for the Staff consisting of Miss Lupton, Dorothy, Dorothy the same, and Mrs. Marriott. I

Mrs. R. C. Lupton,
7938 Edson Avenue,
S. Burnaby, B. C.

You may well wonder what prompted this letter, when as you must know I am not in the habit of chafing up girlhood friends for old times' sake. Although I must admit when I do get around to it, it has always been most rewarding and enjoyable. The reason - if I must have one - is that I didn't get around to putting my "thumb-nail" sketch in writing, while in Toronto - and promised Fatty I would send it to you via her. And since I can't put a pen to paper without producing a deluge, I'm afraid you are for it, Anna. What's more I'm going to describe each and every one of my children in detail! So fill up your glass, take your shoes off, put your feet up - and relax - it won't be that bad!

Affectionately,

Brown



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